

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the Reappointment Committee, I am Herbert L. Dickerson, a retired educator from St. Lucie County. It is a pleasure for me to address you and others on behalf of Representative Alcess Hastings and District # 23.

Representative Hastings has been a tremendous asset to our community and District # 23 for minority concerns. I sincerely hope that you are guided by the overriding principle of "Fairness", as you consider developing new district lines.

As a minority, I recognize that one party controls the legislature and governor ship in our state, but I do not want your consideration and actions to be a partisan exercise. I am of the opinion that you should consider what is best for each community represented in District # 23. Don't allow someone to draft lines or chop up our District # 23 to fit some agenda of the controlling party. Minorities want fairness in the process and fairness in the action. Simply said, "The good ole boy days are over".

The need here is for equal opportunities in employment, equal access to educational institutions and a tolerance for prescription medicines and health benefits for all. Representative Hastings has been one who carried these concerns to Washington on behalf of minorities. Without his presence in Washington, I feel that these concerns and others will be diluted.

As an African American voter in District # 23 and a witness to what happened in the last presidential election, I must say that the process can not repeat itself. "Every vote must count". Ladies and gentlemen you have an awesome responsibility to see that it does not repeat itself.

If district lines are to be re-drawn, I urge you to put in criteria that would have lines drawn fairly, allowing for minority input and minority representation. Unless this process is fair it will be very hard to convince our families, friends and our communities to participate in the political process.

Thank you for your time.

Redistricting Notes:  
Marti Reno-Curtis  
09-05-01

Chairman W  
and Members of the Committee

Marti Reno-Curtis, Speaker #16  
St. Lucie Co. League of Women Voters

### Vero Beach Legislative Hearing

I am Marti Reno-Curtis, President of the St. Lucie County League of Women Voters. We have an active membership of over 50 women who are also an intricate part of the business community in many ways. As a reminder, let me state that the League is a nonpartisan organization. One of our main goals focuses on educating the voter on issues of local concern.

That warrants repeating . . . we work to educate the public, we study issues and we taken a position on issues. I am here today to represent our Florida League's position on redistricting, but also to pass along the first hand knowledge we have gained through our work ~~on the matter of redistricting~~ with candidates and voters.

We do  
not  
support  
any candidate  
or pol.  
party

We see three major problematic areas with the process as it exists now;

1. Looking at St. Lucie County's District, as an example, it is evident the Supervisor of Elections function is greatly complicated by the County's configuration.
2. This also points to expenses incurred by the candidate to adequately reach their constituency. While running for election is basically an expensive procedure, it is compounded unnecessarily with meandering districts.
3. Most importantly, from the League's point of view, is the confusion these District's cause the Voter. Many people don't even know their Representative because that Representative is living in a County unrelated to their community's needs.

All of you are very busy . . . and everyone's energy is spread out in order to make a living, first and foremost! Therefore, not many Voters have the ability to concentrate time and energy toward assurances of proper representation. That's why we look to you today, during this time of redistricting work. Please work diligently on what is best for our citizens, and not what is best for your political party. That is a very tall order and everyone will nod in compliance . . . but we will look for the results to show your earnest efforts. Maybe, People Over Politics already exist and you can show us, this time around, how well the democratic system is operating.

Ms. Caretha Adams

Caretha H. Adams  
100 Devenshire Dr.  
Fort Pierce, Fl. 34946  
Telephone (561) 461-1762

September 4, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

I am concern about the redistricting of our Congressional District twenty- third  
Congressman. Alcee Hasting has made a great impact for the people of our area. Our  
Voices are being heard in Washington because of Representative Hasting.

Please consider leaving Congressional District twenty-three as it is.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration in this important endeavor

 Sincerely,  
Caretha Adams  
Retired Sales Clerk

Margaret Benton

law Offices of

*MARGARET A. BENTON*

A T T O R N E Y   A N D   C O U N S E L O R   A T   L A W

800 VIRGINIA AVENUE • SUITE 10 • FORT PIERCE, FL 34982 • (561) 466-0995

September 4, 2001

Dear Chairman and Reapportionment Committee:

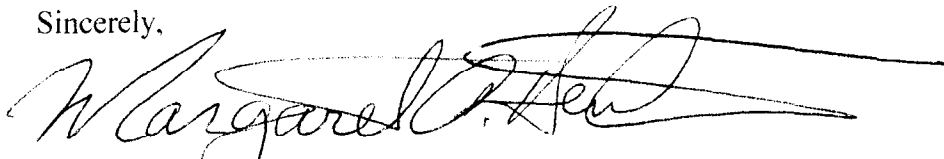
The present configuration of District 23 has resulted in extremely effective representation for the people of this District. Further, our representative, Alcee Hastings has done an excellent job in working for his constituents.

Several huge minority communities are a part of District 23. The reapportionment process should be sensitive to the needs of those communities and should not be used to undermine the effective representation that the District's citizens have enjoyed.

I am therefore requesting that the Committee retain the present configuration of the District and thereby retain representation that works for all of the people.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret A. Benton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Margaret A. Benton  
Attorney at Law

Howard Coleman  
Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church

# *Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church*

PASTOR, THE REV. DR. HOWARD D. COLEMAN

CLERK, SIS. DORIS MINUS

800 AVENUE C  
FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA 34950

(561) 461-0535 Office

(561) 465-3315 Home

September 2, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to certify, that, Representative Alcee Hastings is a tremendous asset in our community and area. Much of the progress we have seen can be attributed to his presence in Washington, D.C. He represents all the people in his district.

A number of people feel like they have an authentic representative for the first time. We are informed on important issues. We also have a sensitive representative who gives us an opportunity to voice our opinions. We know we will be heard by a listening ear who will respond to our needs.

Many people now have faith in the political process because of the dedication and hard work of Congressman Hastings. Without his presence a number of people feel their vote will be diluted. Their voices will not be heard. We need someone to represent not just the largest voting area, but everyone.

I ask that you let Congressman Hastings continue to represent our district. He is good for the democratic process.

Very truly yours,

*The Reverend Howard D. Coleman*

The Reverend Howard D. Coleman

Dear Members of the Legislature,

I'm very sorry that I am unable to attend this meeting in person, as the redistricting discussions are very significant and very important to me. If you are hearing this, then you have been kind enough to allow my letter to be read, and my concerns to be expressed. For that, I thank you.

For instance, after one redistricting effort in Florida, the State Senate district for Vero Beach ran all the way to the west coast and to the Naples-Fort Myers area. Today, a tentacle from Martin County's State Senate district snakes all the way up Vero Beach and swallows our beaches. Why? To assure a super-safe senate seat. As an Indian River county resident, I have a lot more interest in the affairs of mainland Vero, Wabasso, Gifford, Sebastian, and Fellsmere than in what goes on in Port Salerno.

And do we really need that little trail through Fellsmere along the road to Wabasso that conveniently removes all those African-American Democrats and ties them to Orange County? Such gerrymandering in 1990 created a "safe" House District #80 in the coastal counties, while sacrificing the African-American communities in Fellsmere and Wabasso to the more populous Orange and Brevard Counties. The legislators representing this tentacle of District #32 is likely to have very little interest in the problems of a few folks from Fellsmere.

It would make far more sense if our Congressional District was made up of the three counties that make up the Treasure Coast. That would

allow us to vote for a Representative in Washington who would actually understand our interests. It would also join together counties of similar size and related concerns. At present Indian River is included in Brevard's Congressional District with its far larger population base and its space program. Proud as we are of Piper, the scale is a little different.

We are interested in citrus, tourists, and the problems of senior citizens. Even given our differences, the other two Treasure Coast counties have far more in common with us than the Space Coast area.

I would strongly encourage you, in your redistricting plans, to group these three counties together into one district.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lani Deauville

11555 Roseland Road

Sebastian, Florida 32958

Mr. James Edwards

***James and Mary Edwards  
1900 Valencia Ave  
Fort Pierce, FL 34946  
Telephone (561) 465-1349***

September 3, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

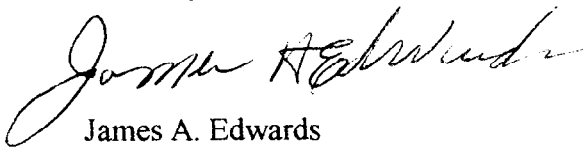
This letter is to certify that Representative Alcee Hastings is a wonderful asset to this community. Much of the progress we have enjoyed can be attributed to his presence in Washington D.C. He represents all the people of this district well.

We feel for the first time that we have genuine representation in Washington. He keeps us informed on all pertinent issues. Representative Hastings gives us the opportunity to be heard and to voice our opinions and concerns.

Because of Representative Hastings we have regained our faith in the political process. Without his presence many of us feel our vote will be discounted and our voices will not be heard. We need someone to represent all of us not just a select few.

I ask that Representative Hastings continue to represent our district. He is good for the democratic process and he represents us well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James A. Edwards".

James A. Edwards  
Retired Educator



Mary Edwards

***James and Mary Edwards  
1900 Valencia Ave  
Fort Pierce, FL 34946  
Telephone (561) 465-1349***

September 3, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

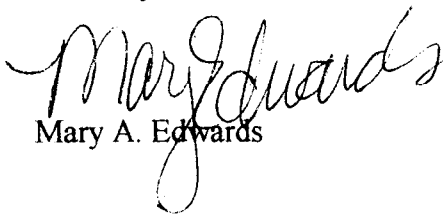
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I ask that Representative Hastings continue to represent our district. He is good for the democratic process and he represents us well.

Sincerely,

  
Mary A. Edwards

Isis Flagg

Isis Flagg  
2849 Harson Way  
Fort Pierce, FL 34946  
(561)466-3499

September 4, 2001

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter is to certify that Representative Alcee Hastings is an irreplaceable asset to this community and to others whom he has represented since he's been in office.

He truly represents this District extremely well. We feel our voices are being heard in Washington, D.C. because of his attributes. The people now feel that their votes really count, and the voting percentage in our District has climbed because of Congressman Hastings. We trust him and know that with his representation our voices will continue to be heard.

I therefore request that the District lines remain unchanged.

Very truly yours,



Isis Flagg  
Nurse

Delores Hayes

Delores Y. Hayes  
Post Office Box 1645  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34954

September 5, 2001

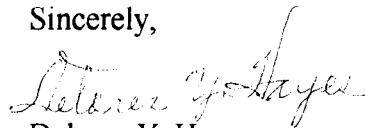
Dear Chairman and Members of the Reapportionment Committee;

This letter comes to express my concern about the redistricting of Congressional District twenty three. Congressional District twenty three is well designed district. It is configured in a way that has given the members of this district very effective representation. Our legislator understands the needs of our district. For this reason and many others the benefits have been great with him representing this district.

If new lines are drawn my concerns is whether minority communities can choose their candidate of choice or whether there will be no representation for minorities. I am concerned that all of the people benefit and not just one or two political favorites.

As you carefully study redistricting, please consider leaving Congressional District twenty three with the lines drawn as they presently are. Thanking you in advance for your cooperation in this great endeavor.

Sincerely,



Delores Y. Hayes  
Retired Educator

Roger Jerace

As a 31 years resident of Indian River City,  
I, as the majority of voters want to see all  
of I.R.C. back in the same district.

We do not feel that one side of 82<sup>nd</sup>  
should be in a district where meetings are held  
87 miles away.

The last time I looked, it still said,  
"a government of, by, and for the people",  
thereby if I.R.C. take entirely in one district  
is the "wish" of the people - so be it.

Those of you who wish not to  
represent the people can be dealt with  
by pulling the right lever in November.

Thank You  
Roger J. Jerace - Reg. Ind  
25 Vista Gardens Trail #104  
Vero Beach 32962

Joan Johnson

JOAN LIVINGSTON JOHNSON

535 39TH COURT, S.W. • VERO BEACH, FLORIDA 32968

TELEPHONE (561) 770-0903

September 5, 2001

Members of the Florida House and Senate Reapportionment Subcommittees  
The Capital  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Dear Sirs,

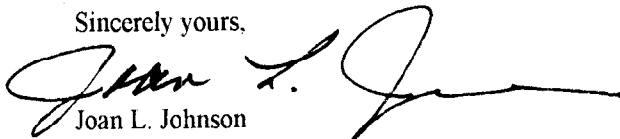
There are several reasons I believe the district lines for Indian River County, which is in District 15, should remain unchanged.

Ten years ago, after the last census, the lines were redrawn and we went through many and some difficult adjustments. While those lines were drawn under the leadership of a governor who was a Democrat and we have worked hard to function well within them. We have forged well working relationships with our neighboring counties that we would like to see continue. We have an U.S. Representative who is up to date and very sympathetic to the issues of concern to Indian River County, and who works hard and is very effective on our behalf.

The counties to the south have some major problems that we do not share. While not intending to cast aspersions, two prominent problems are gang activities in St. Lucie County and a growing HIV/AIDS epidemic in Palm Beach County. These problems are so acute that they require immediate and substantial resources (both time and money). I sit on the board of the Treasure Coast Health Council, a five county council including: Indian River, St. Lucie, Palm Beach, Okeechobee and Martin counties. I know from experience that the majority of this council's resources go to the critical Palm Beach County HIV/AIDS issues. We hope and pray that we never have these types of problems, on the scale that exists to the south, here in Indian River County but at the same time we do not want our needs overridden by those to the south.

There has also been a suggestion that we be combined with the counties to the south because we share a common television news market. I suppose this would be convenient from the standpoint of maximizing a political candidate's campaign funds for advertising. However, following the logic of this approach - we essentially put the redistricting of our great state into the hands of the television networks and the FCC which approves their markets. Not a good way to redistrict the state!!!

Sincerely yours,

  
Joan L. Johnson

FACSIMILE (561) 770-0903

Robert & Eleanor Kennedy

September 5, 2001



REDISTRICTING

Dear Congressmen/Congresswomen,

I wish to urge you to include the three counties of Indian River, St Lucie and Martin to be the Senatorial District that represents my county of Indian River after redistricting occurs.

I am sure the majority of our residents agree with this choice and for many reasons which a number have expressed -- We are not a tourist destination like the counties to the North and South of us (Space Center, Fort Lauderdale, etc); our tourists are mostly season long or long term visitors to their retired parents and grand parents: we have a larger percentage population of home owners and retirees; and we are more rural and agricultural than our neighbors. Another thing, although not quite as politically apparent, is that BellSouth is giving these three counties a new area code. The Marketing Directors of the three counties are trying to get this new number to be 82X so as identify it as the Treasure Coast, similar to what Brevard County did with their 321. If it's so logical for them to group these counties it is just as logical for political reasons to group them for the reasons mentioned above.

Thank You

  
Robert Kennedy  
  
Eleanor Kennedy

275 Date Palm Rd  
Vero Beach, FL 32963

Arlena Benton Lee

Arlena B. Lee  
P. O. Box 939  
Fort Pierce, FL 34954

September 4, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

The people in District 23 consider it a privilege to have Congressman Alcee Hastings as our Representative. We have benefitted greatly from his presence in Washington, D.C.

His strong, effective leadership has been an asset to the people in our District. Our Legislator understands the needs of our community. He listens to the problems of the people and devises methods to solve them. He informs us of issues of concern.

It is my request that Congressman Hastings continue to be our Representative in District 23.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arlena Benton Lee". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Arlena Benton Lee

Jannette Lee

Jannette Lee  
2849 Harson Way  
Fort Pierce, FL 34946  
(561)466-3499

September 4, 2001

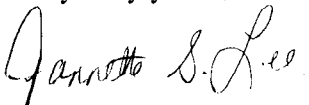
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

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He truly represents this District extremely well. We feel our voices are being heard in Washington, D.C. because of his attributes. The people now feel that their votes really count, and the voting percentage in our District has climbed because of Congressman Hastings. We trust him and know that with his representation our voices will continue to be heard.

I therefore request that the District lines remain unchanged.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jannette S. Lee".

Mrs. Jannette Lee  
Para-professional



James E. & Barbara J. McK  
1076 27th Street  
Vero Beach, FL 32960  
Tele: (561)562-7259  
E-mail: Bmc1076@aol.com

James & Barbara McKeag

September 4, 2001

Cliff Reuter, Chair  
Democratic Party of Indian River County  
517 Camellia Lane  
Vero Beach, FL 32963

RE: Redistricting Hearings on September 5, 2001

Dear Mr. Reuter:

As residents and registered voters of Indian River County, we are concerned with how the Legislature is going to structure the redistricting. Please make our concerns known to the Florida Legislature.

The way our Congressional District is made up now reeks of political maneuvering, little fingers going here and there to pluck out the best or "safe" Districts. Now we do not live in Fellsmere or Wabasso but we feel that these communities are not being represented (if at all) as well as they should be.

It only makes sense that Indian River County being grouped with other Treasure Coast Counties like Martin and St. Lucie counties to the south, rather than Brevard to the north, would give us a fairer hearing on shared issues. We all have small, lower-density towns and cities, we want to protect the Indian River and other water sources, we share citrus industry concerns, and have a large elder population creating health and medical concerns.

We have two questions -- Will written and verbal testimony heard at this hearing today be debated publicly by the committee, with more input from the public? Once the district maps have been drawn with the proposals, will we be able to express concerns before they are final?

Thank you for taking our serious concerns to the Redistricting Hearing.

Sincerely,



James and Barbara McKeag



# REPUBLICAN PARTY

of St. Lucie County

R. Allen Miller  
State Committeeman

R. Allen Miller  
Republican Party of St. Lucie County

Submission to the Fl. Reapportionment Public Hearing Sept. 5, 2001 Vero Beach, FL

Sen. Webster; Representative Byrd; Members. Thank you for providing the opportunity and the information for us to participate in the redistricting process.

- 1 At the end of this process I hope you will give special recognition and thanks to the staff members of the redistricting office. Their help with the FEDS software and the information they have provided is truly exceptional. And with the number of us asking for support at this point, their efforts are well beyond the call of duty.

The only process comment I would like to make is that FREDs is not intuitive for most of us, and perhaps you can still have a power point or video demonstration of how the program features work available on the web site.

- 2 As I have reviewed the comments to date there seem to be 4 central points common to all plans: Compactness; Communities of Interest; Minority Protection re: Court orders; and "Fairness". There are 2 central problems. 1<sup>st</sup> the population must be equally divided and 2<sup>nd</sup> the universal agreement to the definition of the 4 points above. Given the diversity of Florida I do not think universal agreement is achievable.

- 3 Having said that I would like to present a case for St. Lucie County. In 1991 we were one of the black holes where lines were driven together by factors decidedly NOT in the Community Interest of St. Lucie Co. We have been extraordinarily fortunate to have the delegation we had, and now have, we are currently split into 3 house districts and 2 senate districts. While I recognize that total population is the basis for your work I would like you to look at what that split actually means to us in terms of accountability. As of August 31 the Supervisor of Elections has reported that we have 39,140 Voters in Sen Poseys' District; 83,393 in Sen Pruitts' District for a total in St Lucie Co of 122,533 registered voters. On the House side we have 22,047 in Rep. Maycheks' district; 20,866 in Rep Mayfields' District and 79,620 in Rep Harrells' district.

Our problem is that Rep. Harrell must loose approximately 21,000 people and the population push from Collier County is to the East, Osceola County is pushing South, and South Florida is pushing North. If you were to combine the 21,000 to be removed from Dist. 81 and add it to the portions of Districts 78 & 80, I believe you will have met the standards outlined in # 2 above. We don't want 4 Senators and 8 Representatives simply because the lines converge here. As you work on the lines we hope you will seriously consider 1 Senator and 2 Representatives for St. Lucie County.

- 4 With regard to the US Congressional Districts we would also like to request compactness rather than convenient gerrymandering. All three Congressmen have been responsive, at least in my experience, to requests for help from St. Lucie Co. However our entire County would be better served if our boundaries were included in one Treasure Coast seat.

Thank You

Eloise Milton


Eloise Milton  
2515 Avenue F  
Fort Pierce, FL 34947

September 4, 2001

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, Ms. Eloise Milton would like for Congressman Alcee Hastings to remain in District 23, because he is a big help to the people. Therefore, please don't change the District lines.

Thank you,

  
Ms. Eloise Milton  
Retired



# City of **LAKE WORTH**

**7 NORTH DIXIE HIGHWAY**

**LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA 33460-3787**

Rodney Romano, Mayor  
City of Lake Worth

**OFFICE OF  
Mayor and Commissioners**

**TELEPHONE: (561) 586-1735**  
**FAX: (561) 586-1750**  
**e-mail: [rodney@cityoflakeworth.org](mailto:rodney@cityoflakeworth.org)**

Tuesday, September 04, 2001

**To:** Florida Legislative Redistricting Committee  
**Re:** Redistricting to provide the most effective representation

Dear Committee Members:

The City of Lake Worth respectfully asks that our community be redistricted so as to be represented by one State Senator and one or two state representatives.

Our Mayor and commission unanimously request that you consider the following facts and requests as you move forward with redistricting the state:

Lake Worth is an urban community on Florida's east coast, lying immediately south of West Palm Beach, the county seat. Our community is arguably the county's most culturally diverse, yet united in purpose. The city is 5.5 square miles. Our population exceeds 35,000.

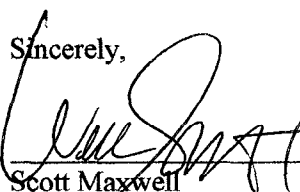
Lake Worth's current state representation is parceled out among three Senators (Muriel Dawson (30), Ron Klein (28) and Ken Pruitt (27)) and three Representatives (Susan Bucher (86), Jeff Atwater (83) and Bill Andrews (87)).

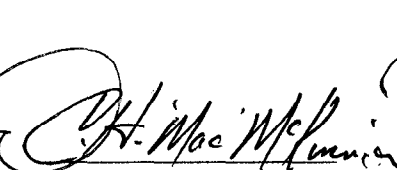
We strongly believe that our community's interests can be more fairly represented if we were not spread out among so many elected officials. We also feel that our senator and representative would be more sensitive to the particular needs of city and county if he or she were a resident of Palm Beach County. Currently, one of our Senators lives in Broward County and another in St. Lucie County (two counties away!).

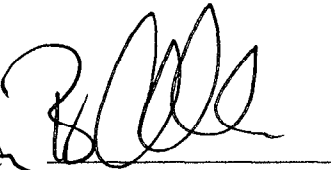
Hard as they may try to spend time with our city, their busy schedules and the expansive geography of their districts makes it difficult for them to give our issues the attention they would like to give.

We thank you for considering our request.


Sincerely,

  
Scott Maxwell  
District 1

  
Colburn "Mac" McKinnon  
District 2

  
Gary "Bo" Allen  
District 3

  
Joe Egly  
District 4

  
Rodney Romano  
Mayor

**RESOLUTION NO. 01-02**

A RESOLUTION OF OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC. REQUESTING THE ADOPTION OF AN APPORTIONMENT PLAN IN WHICH PALM BEACH COUNTY RESIDENTS COMPRISE A MAJORITY OF THE CONSTITUENCY IN THE SENATORIAL AND REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS CREATED; DIRECTING THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE SENATE REAPPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE PROCEDURAL AND REDISTRICTING COUNCIL; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, in the second year following each decennial census, the Florida Constitution Art. III, Sec. 16, requires the legislature to apportion the state into specified senatorial and representative districts in accordance with state and federal law; and

WHEREAS, since the United States Decennial Census of 1990, Palm Beach County has evolved into an intensely populated area of unique, well-defined interests; and

WHEREAS, the senatorial and representative districts established in 1992 and based upon United States Decennial Census of 1990 do not uniformly provide equal representation for the citizens of Palm Beach County based upon current census data; and

WHEREAS, respecting the boundaries of political subdivisions such as Palm Beach County is a traditional districting principle recognized by the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, based on the community of interest established in Palm Beach County, the need to provide County residents equal representation, and respect for the County's geographic boundaries, the Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc., hereby urges the Florida Legislative to adopt an apportionment plan that minimizes overlap of senatorial and representative districts into counties adjacent to Palm Beach County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., THAT:

SECTION 1: The foregoing recitals are true and correct.

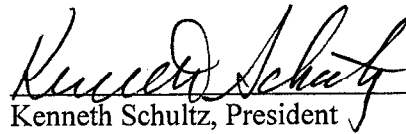
SECTION 2: The Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc. hereby requests the Florida Legislative to adopt an apportionment plan in which Palm Beach County residents comprise a majority of the constituency in the senatorial and representative districts created.

SECTION 3: The Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc. hereby directs that a certified copy of this Resolution be sent to the Senate Reapportionment Committee and the House Procedural and Redistricting Council.

SECTION 4: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the General membership of the Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc.


PASSED AND ADOPTED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2001.

THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF  
CITIES, INC.

  
Kenneth Schultz, President

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

  
Mo Thornton, Secretary/Treasurer

Jerolyn Smith

Jerolyn M. Smith  
2303 San Diego Avenue  
Fort Pierce, FL 34946  
Telephone number (561)464-2881


September 4, 2001

To whom this may concern;

This letter is to certify that Representative Alcee Hastings is an important part of our community. The fruits of his labor has made a difference for the citizens of the St. Lucie and Tri-county area.

Having Representative Hastings makes our voices and concerns count. For this, we are heard in Washington.

Representative Hastings has made a difference in the twenty third congressional district, therefore should be considered a positive impact that should remain in his present position.

 Sincerely yours,  
Jerolyn Smith,  
Retired Educator